



PATENT
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 040894-7484

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Kenji KOBAYASHI) Confirmation No.: 3932
Application No.: 10/588,953) Group Art Unit: 3677
Filed: June 1, 2007) Examiner: Lavinder, Jack W.
For: BINDING PIECE AND BINDING)
APPARATUS)

Commissioner of Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

In a Restriction Requirement dated March 24, 2009, the period for response to which extends through April 24, 2009, the Examiner required restriction under 35 U.S.C. § 121 between Group I (claims 1-8) drawn to a binding piece connecting body, Group II (claims 9-11) drawn to a binding piece, and Group III (claims 12-18) drawn to an apparatus for closing a bag with a binding piece.

Applicant hereby elects Group I (claims 1-8) without traverse. Applicant respectfully requests formal examination of this application.

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310. If a fee is required for an extension of time under

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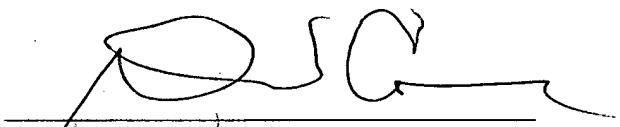
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37 C.F.R. § 1.136 not accounted for above, such extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP

By:


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Dated: April 24, 2009

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